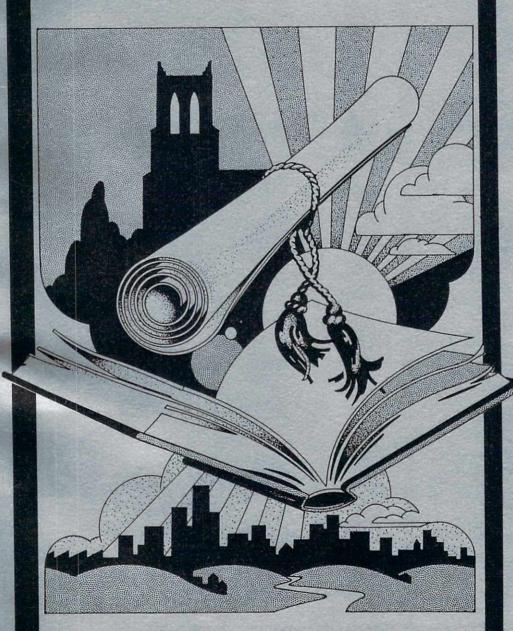
COMAL TODAY

THE INDEX

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by Kevin Quiggle



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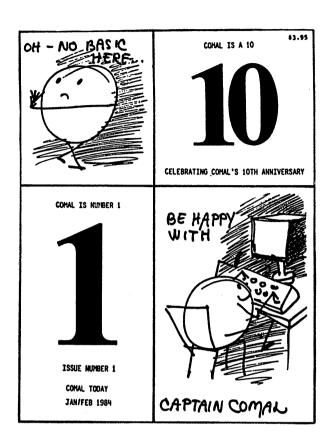
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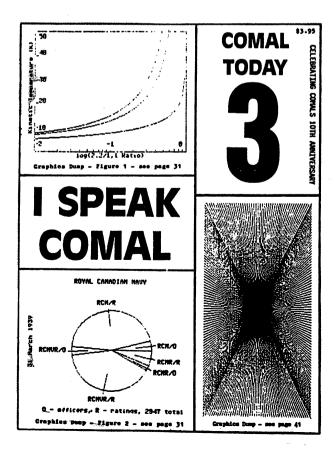
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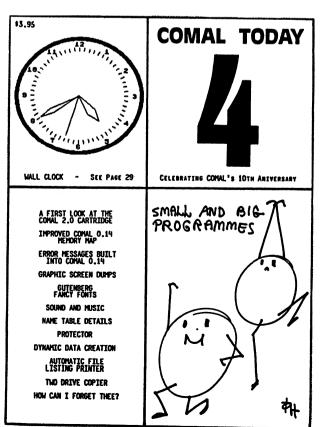
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How To Use This Index

by Kevin Quiggle

This index covers the first 12 issues of COMAL Today. There are three separate listings: keywords and phrases, authors, and titles. Since each of the three listings serves a different function, each has a slightly different form. However, each section shares a common form of citation.

The citation for each index entry refers to both a volume (issue) number and a page number, in the form V#-P#, where V# is the volume number and P# is the page number. For example, in the keywords part of the index you will find this entry:

data base program 8-25,11-72

This means that information on data base programs will be found in COMAL Today #8 on page 25, and in COMAL Today #11 on page 72. Aside from that, there are some important variations in the three listings which I will now explain.

KEYWORDS AND PHRASES

This is the most useful of the three sections. The entries are keywords, phrases, program names, function names, and so on. Entries in this listing have been cross-indexed; this means that a single topic may be cited in several different places in the index. For example, the entry:

sieve of Eratosthenes benchmark

is also found under both:

benchmark, sieve of Eratosthenes

Eratosthenes benchmark, sieve of

In addition, there are numerous suggestions throughout the keywords listing to check related topics. If you look up *procedure* for example, you will find (along with 72 other entries):

procedure: see also algorithm, emulation, function, program, routine, simulation

AUTHORS

All articles written by a particular author are cited; however, unlike the keywords listing, the cites have not been compressed. If an author has written five articles, his or her name will appear five times. This was done to show more clearly which issues of COMAL Today an author has appeared in, and how many articles that author has contributed. Multiple listings for a single author are listed in order of both issue and page number. A few spelling variations (for example Mac and Mc) have been cross referenced in this listing.

TITLES

As the heading indicates, this listing is simply all the article titles which have appeared in *COMAL Today* issues 1 thru 12. Entries in this listing are not cross indexed.

STATISTICS

Everybody seems to like statistics, so here is a brief rundown of what you will find in this index:

3,797 keywords and phrases entries 381 author entries

670 title entries

4,848 total entries

Have fun, and happy referencing!

Keywords and Phrases

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Appendix

It would be nice to just drop twelve issues of COMAL Today into a computer and have an index emerge at the printer. In fact, there are programs which will automatically produce an index.
Unfortunately, such programs are limited in a number of ways:

- 1) The text to be indexed must be in machine readable form.
- 2) The text should be written with the index program in mind.
- 3) Automatic indexing programs work best with highly technical material covering a single area of interest, such as chemistry or medicine.

Even without all these limitations, auto-indexing programs can only be considered a starting point for producing an index. In creating the COMAL Today index, it happens that all three limitations work against the use of auto indexing, especially the fact that I did not have the original text files on disk. [Actually, the files are scattered on dozens of disks and not with the page numbers needed for indexing.]

Of course, a computer was still useful in creating this index. In fact, I ended up writing a number of different programs to help with the indexing. Before getting to the actual program descriptions, however, let's review the basic steps needed to produce an index:

- Compile the data (keywords and phrases, authors, titles, and their issue-page number cites).
- 2) Sort the data in a meaningful way.

- 3) Print the sorted data.
- 4) Edit the sorted data, making any necessary corrections, deletions, and additions (also note useful cross references).
- 5) Sort the edited data again.
- 6) Print the resulting index.

In practice, I found it necessary to go through steps 4, 5, and 6 three times to produce the final index.

For each of the basic steps listed, I wrote one or more programs. These programs, written in COMAL 2.0, were the result:

idx.enterdata
idx.parse/split
idx.sort
idx.sort-all
idx.sort/cite
idx.x-reference
idx.print
idx.edit
idx.count

The programs are listed in the logical order in which they are used. With the overall picture established, let's look at each of the programs in detail.

IDX.ENTERDATA

What the program does:

This program simplifies the process of typing in the index entries. You first enter the volume number and starting page number for the data entry session. As each page to be indexed is read, the appropriate information is entered under

the title, author, or keyword area (see FEATURES for more instuctions). When <return> is pressed, the program automatically appends a cite (volume and page number) to the entry. The page number can be incremented (function key F3) or decremented (function key F4) as required.

Features:

Function keys:

F1 = increment volume number

F2 = decrement volume number

F3 = increment page number

F4 = decrement page number

F5 = move to title area

F6 = move to keyword area

F7 = move to author area

F8 = quit (after saving entries)

Other features:

- 1) After a title is entered, hitting <return> automatically skips to the author area.
- 2) Author names are entered as first-name last-name, and converted to last-name, first-name. For example, enter "Joe Smith" to get "Smith, Joe" (this allows proper sorting of the authors file).
- The last entry made is always displayed.

Editing features:

<home> : homes the cursor

<shift> <clr/home>: deletes current line

<ctrl> P: phrase mode; the cursor stops blinking and you can now use the cursor keys to highlight a phrase (hit <return> to capture the phrase)

<ctrl> K: erase line from current cursor
location to end of line

note: <shift> = shift key <ctrl> = control key

How the program works:

All entries are accumulated in internal program buffers; when the program is ended (or a buffer is full) the entries are appended to their respective authors, titles, or keywords sequential files. Note that the program will not create these files if they do not already exist.

Therefore, before using this program for the first time, you must create all three files. For example, to create the authors file, simply give the commands:

select output "0:authors" select output "ds:"

This will create an empty sequential file called *authors* to which data can now be appended.

IDX.PARSE/SPLIT

What the program does:

Keyword entries are parsed to produce multiple entries from a single entry; the resulting data are sent to one of six keyword data files:

keywords.a-b keywords.c-d keywords.e-g keywords.h-n keywords.o-r keywords.s-z

It is necessary to break the keyword entries into six separate files in order to have data files of manageable size.

How the program works:

The effect of parsing is to take an entry such as:

integer storage in WRITE files

and from it create multiple entries:

storage in WRITE files, integer in WRITE files, integer storage WRITE files, integer storage in files, integer storage in WRITE

Notice that the second entry (beginning with in) is not particularly useful. The program therefore eliminates entries beginning with common words like a, an, the, of, and so on. The parsing process thus automatically generates cross reference entries; for each original key phrase entered, an average of one or two additional entries is generated. Since keyword entries are the largest part of the index, this can dramatically reduce the amount of typing required.

Unfortunately, in spite of the automatic deletion feature, some nonsense entries will still be created by the parsing process. These can easily be deleted during the proofreading/editing process, however, so they represent only a minor inconvenience. Some of the entries generated lie on the borderline of

usefulness; I usually leave these in because some people might find them helpful, and others can easily ignore them.

A final note: Like the data entering program, the six sequential files used by this program will not be created for you if they do not already exist. Before you first use the program, you must create the six keyword files. Refer to the discussion under IDX.ENTERDATA for a simple method for creating these files.

IDX.SORT

What the program does:

This is an external file sorting program. The user specifies both the file to be sorted, and the file to be created (a sorted copy of the original file will be created). A sequential text file too large to fit into computer memory is sorted into dictionary order. Upper and lower case records will sort in proper alphabetical order. Numbers are treated as text, so entries may not always sort in numerical order. For example, page 10 will sort ahead of page 3, but after page 03.

How it works:

The entire sequential file to be sorted is read to determine the size of the largest record; this information is used to optimize the the size of arrays used by the program.

Next, a portion of the data file is read into memory, sorted into dictionary order, and then written back to disk as a temporary subfile. This process repeats until the entire file has been read and rewritten to disk as sorted subfiles. The sorted subfiles are then merged back

together, two at a time, to produce a final sorted file.

WARNINGS:

This program makes intensive use of the 1541 disk drive. Large files may require several minutes to over an hour to sort; most of that time will be spent reading from and writing to the disk drive. If a drive error is encountered during this process, the program may crash, resulting in corrupted files. It is therefore highly recommended that you make a copy of the file to be sorted, and sort the copy.

Finally, you must leave space on the floppy disk for the temporary subfiles. In other words, if the file to be sorted is 50 blocks long, you must have at least 50 free blocks on the disk.

IDX.SORT-ALL

What the program does:

This is a utility program to sort the six keyword files in unattended mode. It is identical in function to *IDX.SORT*, except that files names do not have to be entered.

How the program works:

A disk containing the six keyword files is placed in the disk drive. When the program is run, each of the six files is sorted automatically, without further operator intervention. When used with the datafiles for this index, the sorting process takes several hours.

WARNING:

The original six keyword files on the disk are erased by this program, and replaced

with sorted copies. If for any reason you need a copy of the original unsorted keyword files, be sure to make copies before running this program.

IDX.SORT/CITE

What the program does:

A sequential text file containing reference citations is sorted into dictionary order. Text entries which are identical except for the cites will sort in proper numerical order by cite number. In all other respects this program is identical to idx.sort.

How it works:

Reference cites are appended to all text records as a volume and page number delimited (marked) by an @ character. For example, a cite to files in volume 3, page 42 would appear as files@3-42. With the @ delimiter as a guide, the program can separate the text part of a record from the cite part of the record; when the text parts of two records are identical, the cites are then compared to determine proper numerical order. This program was written specifically for sorting the authors file, so that multiple cites for an author would appear in proper order.

WARNINGS:

All of the warnings under idx.sort are applicable to this program.

IDX.X-REFERENCE

What the program does:

A list of synonyms or related topics are entered. The list is sorted into dictionary order, and converted into a set

of cross-reference entries. For example, if you enter this list:

directory device files disk drive

four cross references will be produced:

device: see also directory, disk drive, files directory: see also device, disk drive,

disk drive: see also device, directory, files

files: see also device, directory, disk drive

The resulting cross references are then appended to one of the appropriate keyword files described in *IDX.ENTERDATA*.

How the program works:

A list of up to twenty synonyms is entered. You are then given these choices:

SAVE: save cross references to internal buffer.

REDO: discard last set of references entered (they will not be saved to buffer or disk).

QUIT: quit the program; any cross references in the buffer will first be saved to disk.

WARNINGS:

When running this program, you should have the disk containing the six keyword files in the drive. Unfortunately, appending the entries to the files is rather slow because the drive must read through the entire file to append a record (it is not possible to keep all six files open at one time on the 1541 disk drive). Once all the cross references have been added, you must then sort the files again to put them in proper order.

IDX.PRINT

What the program does:

The six keyword files (see IDX.ENTERDATA), the authors file, and the titles file are read, formatted, and printed. Headers, footers, and page numbers are automatically added. The program offers a number of options in formatting the output (see FEATURES).

Features:

Twelve different parameters may be set by the user from prompts in the startup screen:

- 1) Columns per page: you may print one or two columns on each page.
- 2) Lines per page: the page size in lines, typically 66 lines per page.
- 3) Edge margin: this is the number of spaces (margin width) of the left side of a right hand page or the right side of a left hand page.
- 4) Center margin: this is the number of spaces between columns, if the two-column option is chosen.
- 5) Gutter margin: this is the number of spaces on the right hand side of a left hand page, or the left hand side of a right hand page (the gutter is the split between two pages in printer's slang).

6) Header 1: the position of the first page header (in lines from the top of the page), which specifies either keywords and phrases, authors, or titles.

- 7) Header 2: the position of the second page header (in lines from the top of the page), which specifies range of entries (in dictionary style) for a given page.
- 8) Top line: the position of the first index entry on a page (in lines from the top of the page).
- Bottom line: the position of the last entry on a page (in lines from the top of the page).
- 10) Footer: the position of the page footer (in lines from the top of the page), which specifies the index title and page number.
- 11) Starting page number: the page number to be used on the first page printed; all other pages are numbered sequentially from the starting page number.
- 12) Print all, odd, even (0,1,2): allows you to print all pages (enter 0), odd-numbered pages only (enter 1), or even numbered pages only; this allows you to print double-sided indexes by printing the even numbered pages only, reversing the paper, and printing the odd-numbered pages only on the reverse side.

Margins are automatically alternated for left and right pages. The option to specify any starting page number permits you to add additional pages of explanatory text before the index proper, and still maintain proper numbering.

Default values are given for all choices; you may select the defaults to simplify printing, or change them to your own preferences.

While printing, the program displays on the monitor the file and page number currently being printed.

How the program works:

The program is quite straight-forward. The six keyword files and the author and title files are read in proper order. As each record is read in, it is wrapped if necessary to fit the column or page space available. The first and last entry for each page is noted, in order to create a dictionary style header (header 2). Each page is first printed internally in an array the size of a full page; when the internal page is full, it is numbered and sent to the printer.

WARNING:

The program requires that you have a data disk containing all six keyword files, the authors file, and the titles file in the disk drive.

IDX.EDIT

What the program does:

Sequential data files too large to fit into available memory can be edited with this program. Records are read from a data file into a program buffer where they may be altered or deleted. You may also insert additional records into the file. The edited and inserted records are then written to an edit file. The original data

file is not altered.

Features:

Available commands:

- GET <N>: get (read) N records from the data file; if the edit buffer is full, records will be written from the buffer to the edit file to make room.
- INSERT: insert a record into the buffer at the current buffer-pointer position; one record will be written to the edit file to make room for the inserted record.
- SORT: sort the buffer contents only; this is a simple sort which does not ignore upper/lower case.
- EDIT: edit the record at the current buffer-pointer location.
- GOTO <N>: move the buffer-pointer to record number N.
- FIND "<text>": search the buffer only for the word or phrase in <text>.
- QUIT: write any remaining records in the edit buffer or data file to the edit file, print edit statistics to the screen, and end the program.

Keyboard features:

- <ctrl> K: delete from the current cursor
 position to end of line.
- <ctrl> L: move cursor to last character in the line.
- <shift> <clr>: erase entire line.

- <clr/home>: home cursor to beginning of
 line.
- <cmdr> C: copy phrase (a <u>captured</u> phrase is copied to the current cursor position)
- Note: <ctrl> = control key <shift> = shift key <cmdr> = Commodore key.

Function keys:

- F1 = delete toggle. The record displayed will be marked for deletion; if the record is already marked (by DEL in reverse characters) it will be unmarked (and therefore not deleted).
- F5 = move buffer pointer one number higher in the buffer.
- F6 = move buffer pointer 10 numbers higher in the buffer.
- F7 = move buffer pointer one number lower in the buffer.
- F8 = move buffer pointer 10 numbers lower in the buffer.

The record pointed to by the buffer pointer is always displayed on the screen. The position of the record in the buffer is shown both graphically and numerically on the screen; the record number (in terms of records read from the data file) is also displayed on the screen.

Status messages:

- Buffer full: indicates that all available buffer space (40 records) is in use.
- End of file: the end of the data file has been encountered, there are no more records to be read into the buffer.
- File not found: a data file was specified which is not on the disk currently in the disk drive.
- Illegal command: a command was entered which the program does not understand.
- Insert: shown at the bottom of the screen to indicate insert mode is active; all text typed in will be inserted at the current cursor position.
- Phrase: phrase capture mode is active; use the left/right cursor keys to mark a phrase in reverse text.
- String not found: when using the FIND command, no matching string was found in the records in the buffer.

At the end of an editing session, the program will display edit statistics on the monitor, which tally the total number of records read from the data file, the number of records deleted and inserted, and the total number of records in the edit file.

IDX.COUNT

This program was written simply to satisfy my own curiosity. It simply reads through the six keyword files and the authors and titles files, and counts the total number of entries in each category.



COMAL "." **TODAY**

SPEAK



COMAL

EXPAND COMAL 0.14 TO 11.838 BYTES FREE COMAL IMPLEMENTATIONS JUST FOR BEGINNERS OKIDATA 92 SUPPORT PLUS CHINESE SCREENS COMAL 0.14 SET OF MACHINE CODE ROUTINES SHOW STOPPER - CAT PAUSER SIGN LANGUAGE SPANISH COMAL COMAL BUILLETIN BOARDS PROGRAMMERS ALARM SYSTEM DISK EDITOR POLAR GRAPHS WITH COMAL COMAL 2.0 LIGHT PEN USE PROGRAMS ON 28 COMAL DISKS COMPLETE DIRECTORIES LISTED OVER 1.000 COMAL PROGRAMS

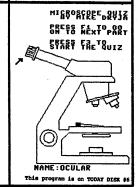


Captain Comal

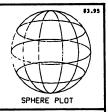
COMPARING COMAL 2.0 & 0.14 COMAL CARTRIDGE MEMORY MAP COMAL 0.14 MEMORY MAP SHADOW LETTERS FOR COMAL 2.0 COMAL SUPPORT NEWS COMAL 0.14 DATA BASES COMAL 0.14 TOKENS COMAL: CARTRIDGE PROGRAMMING TIPS BATCH FILES EXPAND COMAL 0.14 TO 11.838 BYTES FREE REVISITED

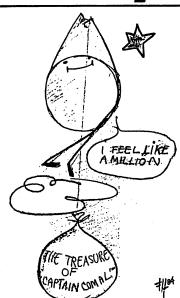
FUNCTION KEYS COMAL 0.14 FIND COMMAND







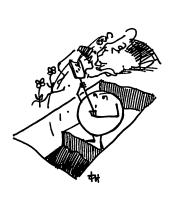




COMAL FOR NON-GURUS FAST LOAD COMAL 0.14 BOOK REVIEWS DEFINE FUNCTION KEYS 2.0 EXTERNAL PROCEDURES BATCH FILES INTERSTELLAR DUST CLOUDS COMAL DISASSEMBLER DISK EDITOR 1520 PLOTTER DRIVER FAST DIRECTORY READER MAILING LIST MAKER GEMINI 10X GRAPHICS DUMP

COMAL **TODAY**





WORD GAME DIRECTORY EDITOR RANDOM FOREST EASY SPRITES SHAPE MAKER CUSTOM ERROR MESSAGE MUSIC WRITER SOUNDEX

INTERRUPT COMMAND FUN PRINTING

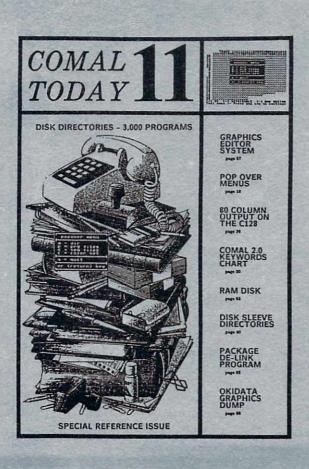
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IF TOUR LASEL SATS LAST ISSUE: 9 TOU MUST SEVEN MON.

